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# AGRICULTURAL MEMORANDUM NO 505

## DRAINAGE AND SPRING VEGETABLE SOWING - L P Smith

Previous analyses of the effects of drainage had dealt with the sowing of cereals. This type of analysis is now repeated for vegetable sowing, assuming that 7 working days are needed in each of the months, March, April and May.

Only one station was considered - Stratford-on-Avon; the results were:-

Average working days (20 year-period) per month

| | Drainage Efficiency | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | A | B | C | D |
| March | 15.3 | 14.0 | 12.4 | 11.3 |
| April | 14.0 | 12.5 | 11.0 | 10.1 |
| May | 15.5 | 13.9 | 11.5 | 10.6 |

Occasions of completion of schedule and mean percentage delays

| | A | B | C | D | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| March schedule complete in | 18 | 17 | 17 | 16 | years in 20 |
| Mean percentage delay | 6½% | 10% | 11½% | 14½% | |
| April schedule plus delays complete in | 16 | 13 | 12 | 12 | years in 20 |
| Mean percentage delay | 3% | 7% | 12% | 14½% | |
| May schedule plus delays complete in | 18 | 16 | 13 | 12 | years in 20 |
| Mean percentage delay | ½% | 2½% | 7% | 11% | |
| Mean days delay, out of total of 21 | 0.15 | 0.55 | 1.5 | 2.35 | days |

This seems to suggest the following drainage improvement potential:-

| | |
|---|---|
| Bad to Poor | losses cut by one third |
| Poor to Moderate | losses cut by one half or more |
| Moderate to Good | losses almost eliminated |

Any comments or suggestions on this paper should be referred to the author.

Meteorological Office
Bracknell
October 1972

kmh/10/72/60